

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet includes amendments to Figure 1. This sheet replaces the original sheet.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet (1 sheet)

REMARKS

Claims pending in the instant application are numbered 1-30. Claims 1, 11 and 21 are rejected. Claims 2-10, 12-20 and 22-30 are objected to.

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

Objections to the Drawings

The drawings are objected to. Specifically, Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as "Prior Art" because only that which is old is illustrated.

A replacement sheet for Figure 1 is attached showing a legend "Prior Art." The Applicant requests the Examiner to withdraw the drawing objections.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

Claims 1, 11 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Snyder, U.S. 5,422,914.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element of the claim is found in a reference (M.P.E.P. § 2131 citing *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628 (Fed. Cir. 1987)). The Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference fails to disclose each and every element of the claimed invention.

Claim 1 expressly recites:

providing a first clock signal having a first frequency to a state machine counter;

providing a second clock signal having a second frequency that is an integer multiple of the first clock frequency to the state machine counter;

applying the first clock signal to reset the state machine counter to an initial state;

incrementing the state machine counter with the second clock signal wherein the state machine counter has an integer number of states equivalent to the ratio of the second clock signal frequency to the first clock signal frequency;

generating an intermediate clock signal with the state machine counter wherein the counter produces an output signal whenever the state machine increments through all states to return to the initial state; and

applying the intermediate clock signal to synchronize data between the first clock frequency and the second clock frequency (emphasis added).

Snyder is directed to a data synchronization system. Snyder discloses that state machine 34 of BIU 12 receives four control signals (col. 7, lines 50-55; col. 8, lines 8-10; Fig. 4). One of these control signals is a processor clock P-CLOCK. However, bus clock B-CLOCK is not provided to state machine 34. Thus, Snyder fails to disclose “providing a first clock signal having a first frequency to a state machine counter” as expressly claimed by the Applicant.

Additionally, Snyder discloses transition state diagrams illustrating the operation of the state machine 34 (Figures 5 and 6). Figure 5 resets to state L/F-1 (col. 9, lines 20-23) and Figure 6 resets to state P/M-1 (col. 9, lines 58-60) after the assertion of control signal RESET on state machine 34. However, as noted above, B-CLOCK is not applied state machine 34. Further, Snyder discloses that RESET is asserted by a device connected to processor 10 and not by B-CLOCK (col. 7, lines 56-59). Thus, Snyder fails to disclose “applying the first clock signal to reset the state machine counter to an initial state” as expressly claimed by the Applicant.

Thus, Snyder fails to disclose at least one of the expressly recited limitations of the Applicant's invention as presently claimed. Accordingly, the present invention would not be anticipated by Snyder. Independent claims 11 and 21 distinguish for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Claims 2-10, 12-20 and 22-30 are dependent claims and distinguish for at least the same reasons as their independent base claims in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests that the instant § 102 rejections be withdrawn.

Conclusion

The Applicant submits that in view of the remarks and amendments set forth herein, all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to issue a Notice of Allowance in this case.

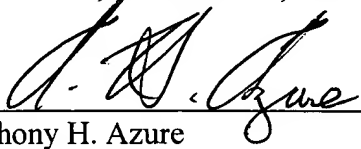
Charge Deposit Account

Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fee(s) that may be due in this matter, and please credit the same deposit account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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